



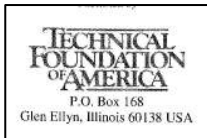
CONTACT: Gary Wynn, Greenfield Central High School

Telephone: 317-462-9211
Email: gwynn1@hotmail.com

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Best Practices in Technology Education: Advocacy
Recognized by the Technical Foundation of America

Description of Best Practice:



Program and association support comes from many different sources including those individuals who have a recognized name, and often from an “old reliable person” who works more behind-the-scenes. Some of these reliable and experienced educators have developed an impressive track record of service and professionalism.

One of these individuals is Gary Wynn of Greenfield Central High School.

Gary is a former state association president and an International Technology Education Association (ITEA) director. His solid stance during the conversion to a technology-based curriculum in Indiana was critical. He was a firm, steady professional advocate for “doing what was best for students.”

Today, the technology education program at Greenfield Central High School is hailed as one of the best in the nation. His students have communicated with the International Space Station via their HAM radio sets. An automation facility is in one section of the school’s production laboratory. Communication and construction activities are conducted in the technology education department and in the community. The technology education facility provides an exceptional learning environment for all students. Administrators and teachers from across the region come to the school for tours and to see “how” to implement technology education.

While program development and facilities are an important part of the technology education program, what is really happening is that through Gary’s actions, he is advocating for technology education. Gary Wynn and Ron Yuill of Lafayette, Indiana have combined efforts to become the driving force and advocates for ITEA’S Idea Garden. This global network has enhanced the sharing of activities, news and accomplishments, professional suggestions, and good will in technology education. Gary is particularly active on the website while redirecting messages and providing useful information.



At a time when support, knowledge, and experience are needed on a daily basis, Gary Wynn is on the phone or Internet, attending an important meeting, or hosting fellow educators in his department. Gary is a tireless worker who gets projects accomplished despite what many people might consider roadblocks at home and work. He makes phone calls to influential persons that would intimidate most others, and gets programs highlighted in the media that would escape most people's attention. Gary is a promoter and advocate, using the phone or Internet as his personal vehicle to get to "the right place at the right time."

Key contact person:

Gary Wynn

Telephone: 317-462-9211 ext 12118

Email: gwynn@gcsc.k12.in.us

Gwynn1@hotmail.com

Best Practices in Technology Education:

A Collection of 21st Century Best Practices in Technology Education

is available for educational purposes at:

<http://teched.vt.edu/ctte/>